

PID/ABCB 115/63
27 May 1963
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Atomic/Biological/Chemical Division, OSI

ATTENTION:

FROM:

Chief, CIA/PID(WPIC)

SUBJECT:

Photographic Analysis of Cairo Army Barracks
and Schools Abbasiyah and Cairo Army Barracks
Camp Buckstep

REFERENCES:

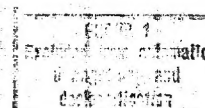
Requirement No. OSI/R-128/63
CIA Project No. C 474-63

1. The UAR Army Headquarters at Abbasiyah on the northeast side of Cairo has been studied on photography dating from [redacted]. No indications of advanced weapons systems employment were observed in this area, but a large build-up of Soviet-type squad tents was observed here in late 1959.

2. Cairo Army Barracks at Camp Buckstep, and related installations, which are located 11 nautical miles (nm) northeast of the center of Cairo, showed some significant changes during the 1956-62 period (see Figure 1). A munitions plant on the west side of Camp Buckstep showed and expansion of 50% in the period between [redacted] (see Figure 2), which included new production buildings and four heavily revetted and dispersed storage buildings. In an open storage area secured by a fence and numerous guard towers a large number of cylindrical drums were observed. These drums, approximately 100 in number, appeared here in the period between 1958 and 1960. There were drums [redacted] and smaller drums of a standard 50 gallon size, as of [redacted]. In 1962 approximately two-thirds of the drums had been removed, probably to the cover of buildings.

3. Three grids (see Figure 3) are also visible at Camp Buckstep, two of which resemble the small experimental grids observed at the [redacted]. The third is a large grid showing blackened areas and it is possible that this is a grid to test flame and napalm, which the UAR is known to have experimented with. These grids were all present on photos of [redacted] the earliest photography of the area which is available.

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4. There are indications of a strong Soviet military presence at Camp Huckstep in [REDACTED]. There is a large increase in Soviet-type squad tents and in Soviet-type weapons and vehicle emplacements in the training areas around the camp (see Figure 2). Two Soviet-type small arms ranges also appeared here in the period between 1958 and 1960.

5. Most significant, however, is the construction of a vast depot, which may be for ammunition storage, on the east side of Camp Huckstep in the period between [REDACTED]. This depot extends over an area of 2.5 by 1.5 nm and if it is an ammunition depot it is now the largest ammunition storage depot in the Cairo area. Large scale coverage of this depot was taken [REDACTED] showing it in a late stage of construction. The installation is unusual in that it is without visible security, it is without black protection and it has an excellent high standard road system with extremely long turning radii. Although much of the installation is widely dispersed there are many closely spaced building groups. Many of the building groups show pipelines leading to underground tanks. With each building group are small cubical buildings resembling fuse storage houses, the only feature recognizable as ammunition storage.

6. The photo analyst on this project is [REDACTED]. He may be contacted on extension [REDACTED] should you have further questions regarding this requirement.

7. This memorandum and its charts answer the referenced requirement and the project is considered complete.

Attachments:

✓ CIA/PID/ACCB/P-31 & 22/63

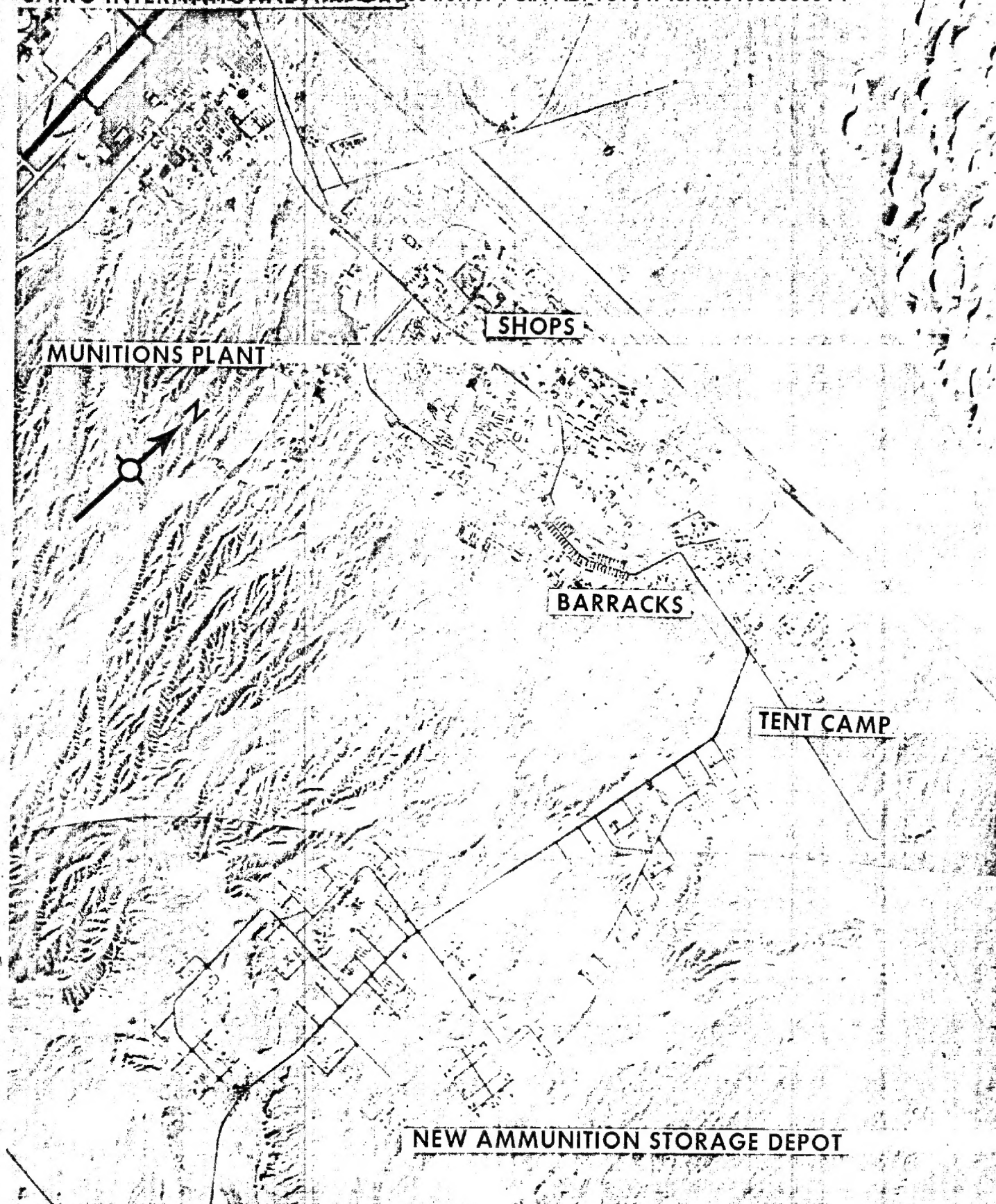


FIGURE 1 CAIRO ARMY BARRACKS CAMP HUCKSTEP, UAR

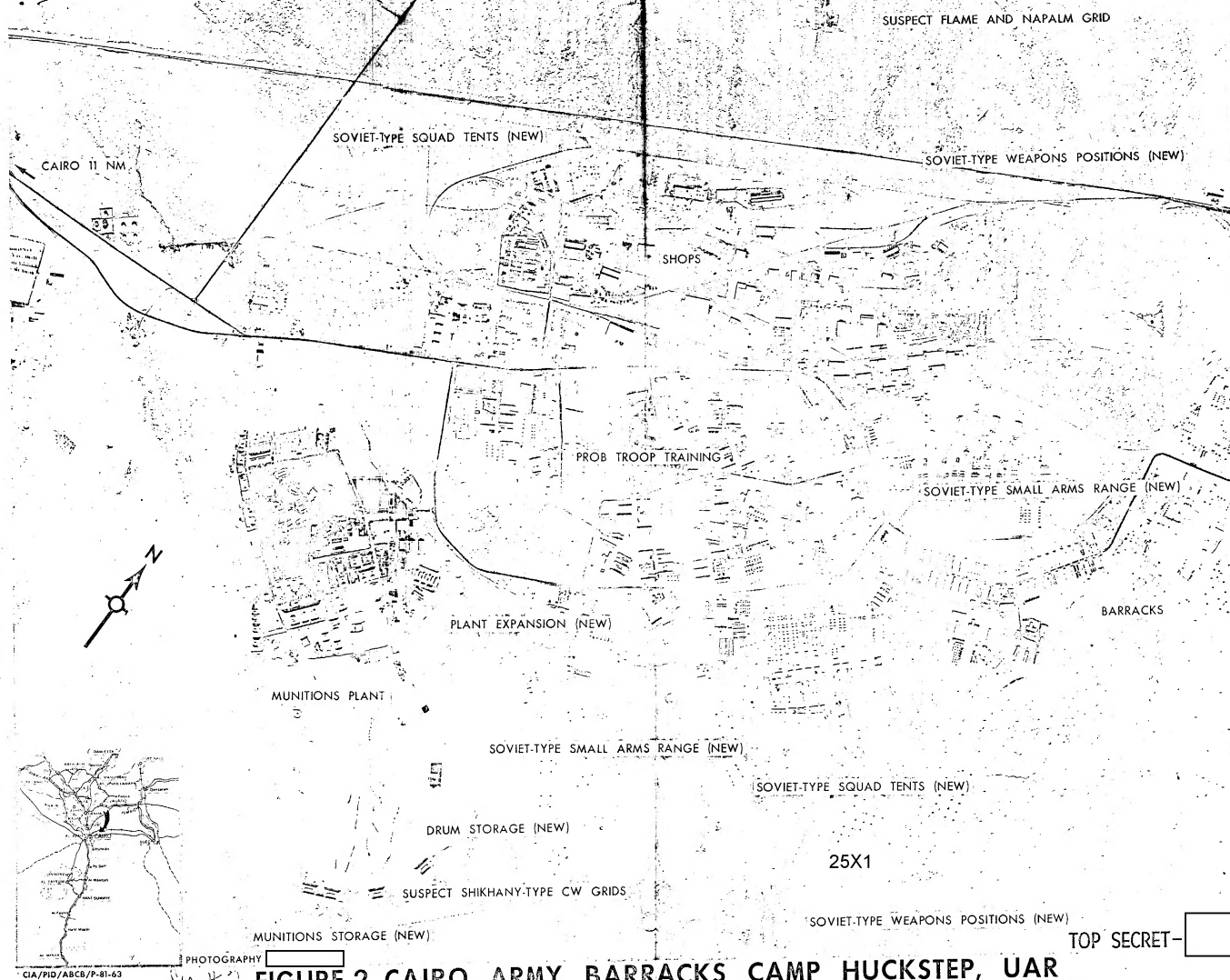
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